

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06

OMB-01 FBIE-00 DRC-01 /082 W
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R 041556Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6738

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL UBE BUENOS AIRES 4071

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AR

SUBJ: BORDER PATROL REQUEST US TRAINING FOR SENIOR PERSONNEL

SUMMARY: THE ARGENTINE BORDER PATROL (GENDARMERIA NATIONAL ARGENTINA) HAS REQUESTED THAT TWELVE OF ITS MOST SENIOR OFFICERS RECEIVE IN THE US INDOCTRINATION AND TRAINING IN ANTI-NARCOTICS TECHNIQUES. THE BORDER PATROL IS PREPARED TO MEET ONE HALF THE COST OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE. THE EMBASSY SUPPORTS FULLY THIS PROPOSAL, BELIEVING THAT IS WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO BORDER INTERDICTION OF NARCOTICS, AND PARTICULARLY OF COCAINE.

ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL FOR THE PROJECT IS REQUESTED.
END SUMMARY.

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT IF AWARE,THE ARGENTINE BORDER PATROL (GENDARMERIA) IS LAUNCHING A MAJOR EFFORT AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, NOTABLY IN THE FAR NORTHEAST WHERE THE PROBLEM OF COCAINE MOVEMENT IS PARTICULARLY ACUTE, AND THAT THE USG WILL MAKE A LARGE COMMODITY INPUT INTO THE PLAN.

2. WITH RESPECT TO TRAINING, DEA PLANS TO CONDUCT THREE ONE WEEK IN COUNTRY TRAINING COURSES IN JULY-AUG FOR SOME
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120 JUNIOR BORDER PATROL OFFICERS, WHILE AN ADDITIONAL 8

JUNIOR OFFICERS HAVE THUS FAR BEEN PROGRAMMED FOR CY74
TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. BOTH TO REINFORCE THIS EFFORT BUT MORE TO BRING THE
COMMAND AND CONTROL ELEMENTS OF THE BORDER PATROL FULLY
INTO THE OPERATION, THE BORDER PATROL HAS PROPOSED TO THE
EMBASSY THAT 12 OF THE PARTICIPANTS.

6. COMMENT: CONCERNED ELEMENTS OF THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS
ACTION COMMITTEE FULLY SUPPORT THE BORDER PATROL'S PROPOSAL.
THE PATROL IS A TOUGH, "GUNG HO" UNIT, WITH HIGH MORALE
AND AN EXCELLENT RECORD FOR SUCCESSFULLY MEETING ITS ESTABLISHED
GOALS. NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT HAS NOW BECOME ONE OF THOSE GOALS
AND THIS PARTICULAR GROUP OF OFFICERS, EITHER BECAUSE OF THE
PRESENT OR PROPOSED COMMANDS, WILL BE STRATEGICALLY PLACED
TO MAKE MAJOR INPUTS INTO THE BORDER PATROL'S PROGRAM.
WE WOULD HOPE THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES WOULD (A) APPROVE
THE PROJECT AND (B) MAKE PARTICULAR EFFORT TO ENSURE ITS
SUCCESS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON AGENCIES CONCERNED ARE
REQUESTED TO APPROVE A SPECIAL NARCOTICS TRAINING PROJECT
WHEREBY 12 SENIOR OFFICERS FROM THE GOA BORDER PATROL WOULD
BE GIVEN A SPECIAL COURSE OF A TOTAL OF 26 DAYS, WITH ONE
HALF THE INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE TO BE PAID BY THE BORDER
PATROL ITSELF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL TRAINING, BORDER GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUENOS04071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740142-0097
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740678/aaaacpim.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BORDER PATROL REQUEST US TRAINING FOR SENIOR PERSONNEL SUMMARY: THE ARGENTINE BORDER PATROL (GENDARMERIA NATIONAL
TAGS: SNAR, AR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005